

Peace Officers Association. He worked for the statewide organization representing the 33,000 men and women who worked in the state's correctional facilities. For over twenty years, Mr. Corcoran served as a union officer for the California Department of Corrections. Starting out as a Correctional Officer at Susanville in 1986, he was quickly promoted due to his commitment to improving the California correctional facilities and the lives of his fellow Peace Officers.

In 1994, Mr. Corcoran served as the President of the California Correctional Center Chapter within the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and also served on the Board of Directors. His leadership and determination not only made the California Correctional Peace Officer Association one of the largest and most prestigious law enforcement associations in the state but also made it highly influential. He continued to improve the Association by serving two terms as the Executive Vice President for the California Correctional Officers Association.

Mr. Corcoran directed the legislative operation of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association as the Chief of Governmental Affairs in 2005 before taking on the position of Chief Communications Officer for the Association. Not only was Mr. Corcoran an advocate for the rights of Peace Officers but also for the families impacted by crime. Mr. Corcoran was an active member of the California Crime Victims Coalition and served on the advisory board for the Doris Tate Crime Victims Bureau.

The passion of Mr. Corcoran to represent the California Correctional Peace Officers Association was unrelenting. He actively worked with determination to protect the rights of the men and women who worked for the California Department of Corrections. Few people have the passion and determination that Mr. Corcoran had. Mr. Corcoran always had a smile on his face and had an unparalleled sense of humor. He was not only an advocate for the Peace Officers, but was also their friend. He worked diligently and with compassion to ensure that all California Corrections Officers were treated fairly. Mr. Corcoran has left an influential impact on the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and on the State of California.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lance Corcoran for his service and dedication to the California Department of Corrections and to the State of California. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Lance Corcoran.

IN HONOR OF AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
COREY C. OWENS

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true patriot who died in service to this great country. On February 17, 2011, Airman 1st Class Corey C. Owens, USAF, died of a non-combat related incident at Al Asad Air Base in Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn.

Airman 1st Class Owens, 26, of San Antonio, Texas, was assigned to the 47th Security

Forces Squadron, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, and was on his second deployment to southwest Asia. His father resides in Story, Arkansas.

Although I never had the honor of meeting Airman 1st Class Owens, it is clear by the outpouring of praise from his colleagues, friends and family that he was well liked and well respected by all who knew him. In fact, local news reported that when Laughlin Air Base held a memorial service on February 28, they had trouble finding a space large enough.

Airman 1st Class Owens is survived by his current wife, Misty Owens; his two daughters, Xiya and Xoe Owens from his first marriage; his father, Steve Owens of Story, Ark.; his mother, Chris Owens of Springfield, Ill.; two sisters, Ann Kusterbeck of Princeton, Tex., and Sandra Owens of Springfield, Ill.; two uncles, two aunts, two nieces, one nephew and several cousins.

When we think of true heroes, we think of brave Americans like Airman 1st Class Owens who risk everything to defend freedom and serve this great country. We will always be grateful for his selfless sacrifice and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him. My thoughts and prayers go out to his parents and the rest of his family and friends during this very difficult time. We are who we are as a nation because of patriots like Airman 1st Class Owens.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life of Airman 1st Class Corey Owens and his legacy, as well as each man and woman in our Armed Forces, and all of those in harm's way supporting their efforts, who give the ultimate sacrifice in service to this great country. We owe them our eternal gratitude.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MOTORCOACH ENHANCED SAFETY ACT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Motorcoach Enhanced Safety Act.

Four years ago, a horrific accident occurred in my congressional district when a bus carrying the Bluffton University men's baseball team crashed on Interstate 75 in Atlanta, Georgia, en route to a tournament in Florida.

Twenty-nine people were injured on that terrible day, but seven others—Zachary Arend, David Betts, Scott Harmon, Cody Holp, Tyler Williams and Jean and Jerome Niemeyer died that terrible day. They were all treated at various hospitals—Atlanta Medical Center, Piedmont Hospital, and Grady Memorial Hospital.

The entire nation was shocked by the tragedy, and I was floored when my office received a phone call from one of the surgeons who treated the victims. Dr. Jeffrey Salomone, an Associate Professor of Surgery at Emory University School of Medicine, and Deputy Chief of Surgery at Grady Hospital was outraged. He felt that the injuries would have been less severe, and that more lives may have been saved had the victims not been ejected from the motorcoach bus. It was an accident that had been seen time and time again in emergency rooms across the country,

and Dr. Salomone couldn't understand why the government had not acted.

Well last year, Congress almost did. The sponsors of the Senate-companion to this legislation—Sens. SHERROD BROWN and KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON—worked tirelessly to move the Motorcoach Enhanced Safety Act through the Committee process and onto the Floor. In the House, the Chairmen of both the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Energy and Commerce Committee expressed interest and empathy on this issue. Secretary LaHood coordinated discussion groups and drafted a preliminary proposal to address motorcoach safety.

Simply said, Mr. Speaker, Congress needs to act. This bill addresses the most common-sense of issues and has always enjoyed bipartisan support. The U.S. used to be a leader on safety and standards issues, but now we're falling behind. The proposals laid out in this legislation bring our nation's motorcoach industry into the 21st century. I hope that all my colleagues will cosponsor this important bill, and that the victims and their families will celebrate its signage into law this year.

NATIONAL PEACE CORPS WEEK/ PEACE CORPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity to honor the Peace Corps during this National Peace Corps Week.

I would also like to thank Congressman GARAMENDI, a returned Peace Corps volunteer himself, for his leadership in organizing this special order on this historic occasion.

Today, March 1, 2011 the Peace Corps celebrates its 50th anniversary. It is with the historic contributions of this organization in mind, that I proudly acknowledge the important work of more than two hundred thousand Peace Corps volunteers since the agency's inception in 1961.

It is not surprising that year in and year out Americans are eager to do even more. While more than 13,000 Americans apply annually to serve their country in Peace Corps, serious budget constraints provide placements for roughly 30 percent of applicants.

President Obama has rightly called for doubling the size of the Peace Corps in order to meet this demand, as well as the overwhelming need for additional volunteers around the globe.

This is a pledge that we must keep.

I am proud to report that California has been and continues to be the largest producer of Peace Corps volunteers with more than 1,100 people currently serving abroad.

My home District, California's 9th Congressional District, can be called home by more than 20 current volunteers who have committed themselves to the Peace Corps mission of world peace and friendship through service.

The University of California, Berkeley located in my district has consistently received top or near top honors for producing the most Peace Corps Volunteers, producing 92 volunteers in 2010 alone.

In fact, UC Berkeley has contributed over 3,400 volunteers to the Peace Corps Program since 1961.

Through volunteer work abroad in fields including health education, food security, local business development, education about HIV/AIDS, and agricultural and environmental improvement, the work of the Peace Corps improves people's lives.

At the same time, this vital work enhances the credibility of the United States abroad, fostering the exchange of ideas, and uniting cultures around values of peace, tolerance, and prosperity.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 384, The Peace Stamp for the Peace Corps Act, which calls for the introduction of a semi-postal Peace Stamp, which will sell at a slightly higher rate than the normal 44 cents, in order to create additional revenues for the Peace Corps.

What better time to celebrate the legacy and significance of this great organization with a semi-postal stamp than on the occasion of the Peace Corps' historic 50th anniversary.

I encourage my colleagues to join as co-sponsors of H.R. 384, which most importantly, would generate additional resources for the work of the Peace Corps through the generous support of the American people.

There is no denying the impact of U.S. foreign assistance programs around the world, and the Peace Corps is a perfect example of our nation's will to promote peaceful relations, the exchange of ideas, and to assist and empower those who are most in need.

Before I finish, it should be noted that the Peace Corps enjoys bipartisan support in Congress, not the least of which from our four Returned Peace Corps Volunteers currently serving in the House: Reps. GARAMENDI, FARR, PETRI, and HONDA.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize a man who embodied the Peace Corps' mission of 'peace and friendship through service', and that is Sargent Shriver.

Mr. Shriver, who passed away this January, was a true public servant who dedicated his life to promoting justice and creating opportunity not only in America but throughout the world.

In his work and personal life, and most notably as the first Director of the Peace Corps, Mr. Shriver's dedication to this cause has come to define generations of U.S. volunteers working at home and abroad for the betterment of society through the offering of a steady, helping hand.

During National Peace Corps Week we salute past and present Volunteers who selflessly serve abroad in support of the Peace Corps' vital mission.

Today we say happy 50th anniversary to the Peace Corps, and should similarly rededicate ourselves to supporting and strengthening the Peace Corps program for ours and future generations.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD "DICK"
GODDARD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Richard "Dick" Goddard, longtime Cleveland-area meteorologist, animal rights advocate, author and cartoonist

on the occasion of his fiftieth anniversary in broadcasting and 80th birthday.

Born on February 24, 1931, Dick, an Akron, Ohio native, graduated from Green High School. He first entered the field of meteorology as a member of the U.S. Air Force, 6th Weather Squadron, where he served our country during the Korean War. After his return to Ohio, he enrolled at Kent State University, where he graduated in 1960 with a bachelor of arts in drama and broadcasting.

He began his career in broadcasting with Cleveland-area station KYW-TV on May 1, 1961. After the station moved to Philadelphia, Dick remained in Cleveland, becoming the chief meteorologist at WJW-TV where he has remained for forty-five years. Dick also became the statistician for the Cleveland Browns, a position he still holds. In these roles, he has become a community leader and local celebrity, hosting public events and founding the area's annual Woollybear Festival.

Dick is one of the Cleveland area's most famous and effective advocates for animal welfare. For example, to help an animal shelter find new homes for its indigent dogs, he features several adoptable dogs during every Friday evening newscast. He has single-handedly raised the level of awareness of animal rights and has done Northeast Ohio a great service.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Dick Goddard for his contributions to the Cleveland area and to our nation. The longevity of his public service in Cleveland shows a strong commitment to the vitality of Northeast Ohio, and his tireless work for animal rights has helped to save or improve the lives of countless needy animals. He has been nothing short of inspirational, and he continues to be a leader and role model in our community.

MAYOR OLIVE STEPHENS—A LIFE-
LONG COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a very special citizen of the 26th District of Texas, Olive Stephens. Mrs. Stephens has enjoyed a long life of public service with 10 years as Councilwoman and 38 years as the Mayor of Shady Shores whose population is about 2,700. At 94 years of age, Mayor Stephens says it's time to pass the torch.

Olive Stephens has made a remarkable impact on the town during her reign of service. She was there to support the incorporation of Shady Shores in 1960. This prevented it's absorption from surrounding cities and since then, five separate city landmarks bear her name including a street, the city council chambers, and an elementary school. For many years, in an effort to keep from increasing taxes for citizens, fundraisers were held to help fund the fire department, road maintenance, and the general fund. Ceramics sales, fish fries, bar-b-ques, chili suppers, and yard sales are all examples of how Mayor Stephens led her citizens in ingenuity and resourcefulness.

Olive was known for her tenacity and has left us with many memorable quotes, but I think one of her more recent in regard to her stepping down is a relevant one, "Well, I've left you without any debt and money in the bank, so let's see if we can keep it that way." Her longevity and integrity are not in short supply as she will continue participation in the community she helped build. She is truly an inspirational community leader. I thank Mayor Stephens for her lifelong commitment to service. I am proud to represent her in Congress.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT
MORRIS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Robert Morris, a dedicated community and home building industry leader.

After graduating from San Diego State University, Mr. Morris became actively involved with builders associations—first, serving as a volunteer with the Building Industry Association of San Diego and then joining the staff as the Director of Membership and later on as the Executive Vice President. Mr. Morris' strong belief in community service was emphasized shortly after his arrival in the great State of Texas in 1994. He sought and gained opportunities to become involved with various civic organizations, serving on boards such as the Fannie Mae Dallas Advisory Council and the North Central Texas Customer Advisory Board.

With his extensive experience and passion for the building industry, Mr. Morris established his presence as the Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the Home Builders Association (HBA) of Greater Dallas. In this role, Mr. Morris also qualified for two home building industry professional designations, the Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) and the Certified Green Professional (CGP) and continued to expand his knowledge by participating in the National Association of Homebuilders Officers Council Excellence in Learning Program. The HBA and the industry greatly benefitted from his vision, extensive experience, and wealth of wisdom. Mr. Morris has received numerous awards and honors, including the prestigious Texas Association of Builders' Presidential Service Award and the Seldon Hale Lifetime Accomplishment Award.

I know his dedication and leadership will be greatly missed at the HBA. I wish Bob and his wife, Pam, all the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Morris on his retirement and his many achievements in the home building industry.

HONORING JACK CRISTIL FOR HIS
STORIED CAREER AT MIS-
SISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 2, 2011

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor Jack Cristil of Tupelo, Mississippi for his